



Dec 18  
+

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000,  
provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application  
filed on or after June 8, 1995.  
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/819,613
Filing Date	March 29, 2001
First Named Inventor	Yasuo OKUTANI, et al.
Group Art Unit	2654
Examiner Name	Daniel A. Nolan
Attorney Docket Number	00862.022178

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

**NOTE:** 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

## 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on July 19, 2004  
(ANY unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Preliminary Amendment and Petition for Extension of Time w/ appropriate fee
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

09/21/2004 HVUON61 00000054 09819613

01 FC:1801

770.00 OP

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b. ☒ Checks in the amount of \$ 770.00 for the filing fee and \$ 420.00 for the extension fee are enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Melody H. Wu	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	52,376
Signature		Date	September 20, 2004

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)		Date	
Signature			

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Director of the U.S.P.T.O., P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

00862.022178

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Yasuo OKUTANI, et al.

Application No.: 09/819,613

Filed: March 29, 2001

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS OF  
SELECTING SEGMENTS FOR  
SPEECH SYNTHESIS BY WAY  
OF SPEECH SEGMENT  
RECOGNITION

)  
:  
Examiner: D. Nolan

)  
:  
Group Art Unit: 2654

)  
:  
September 20, 2004

**Mail Stop RCE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

Petition for Extension of Time

Applicants petition to extend the time for response to the final Office Action dated April 19, 2004 for two (2) months, from July 19, 2004 to September 20, 2004 (Monday), an Amendment After Final Rejection having been timely filed on July 19, 2004. A check in the amount of \$420.00 for payment of the extension fee is enclosed. Please charge any additional fee required for the extension, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

09/21/2004 HVUONG1 00000054 09819613

02 FC:1252

420.00 OP

Preliminary Amendment

Prior to further examination on the merits, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks.